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IT IS A GOOD THING to observe Christmas Day. The mere marking of times and seasons, when men agree to stop work and make merry together, is a wise and wholesome custom. It helps one to feel the supremacy of the common life over the individual life. It reminds a man to set his own little watch, now and then, by the great clock of humanity which runs on sun time.

But there is a better thing than the observance of Christmas Day, and that is, keeping Christmas.

Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duty in the foreground; to see that your fellow-men are just as real as you are, and try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy; to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness - are you willing to do these things even for a day?

Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and the desires of little children; to remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough; to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear in their hearts; to try to understand that those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you; to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow

will fall behind you; to make a grave for your ugly thoughts and a garden for a day?

Then you can keep Christmas.
- Henry Van Dyke.

The holiday season of '68 is not to be remembered with any pleasure - Hong Kong Flu rampant - at the last moment we all had it - failed to get off to Phoenix due to the great ice and snow storm - O'Hare a boiling mass of humanity - frustrated and not a Chinaman's chance of going anywhere - always thought Milwaukee was the worst city in America for cabs but this year Chicago was even worse - when we finally did get home couldn't have been coaxed to the corner drug store (which we don't have anymore) - adding insult to injury Channel 11 had technical problems and Dr. Duffy did not get on the air. It will be run again on February 18th at 9:30 PM.

What pleasure there was, came mostly in the messages on cards and former friends and pupils stopping in - ELISABETH WINEBERG, BILL GARY, RAY CIACCROCHI - from New York - BILL REILLY, and AVIVA SORKIN from Milwaukee, and BUD TYGETT from Huntsville, Alabama. From Kiruna, Sweden, one of the most northern cities, long past the artic circle come greetings from JUDY CONWAY - bringing culture in the form of "Annie Get Your Gun" to the Laplanders. Possibly soon, maybe even now, she is in rehearsal for the Swedish Company of "Fiddler on the Roof". APRIL GUSS AUBIEL in Germany will be in San Francisco next summer. BARBARA WITCOFF MUENCH'S card was from Germany too. DEBBY KRYCH PARKS is now in Japan and loving it. JAMES SHANNON is in Vietnam but will leave on or about January 15th - he will attend the University of Illinois for a semester and then happily back to work. MARGARET YELACIC was back performing in Toronto and DOROTHY SLESSMAN ADAMS is working at

the Elmwood Casino in Ontario, Canada. NAOMI SORKIN and RUTH ANN KOESUN spent their holidays dancing in the Brooklyn season for Ballet Theatre. BARBARA MACFARLANE is working for her degree and rehearsing with the Cincinnati Ballet Co. DEE DEE SEAVER ROSEBERRY moved last August to Indianapolis and her daughter now studies at the Jordon School. POLLY HARDING will be one of three on an NBC Special on Communications. They will be the non-verbal part of the program. ANITA EARLE working on a Rockefeller Grant at USC has hopes of returning to Chicago as a critic. PATRICK CUMMINGS just finished assisting Onna White on the Las Vegas Company of Mamee and on January 2nd flew to London to do the choreography for the London production of the same show. JANE ROBERTSON will hit New York after the first of the year - we presume she finished her college. Each year we look forward to receiving the beautifully sketched cards of ELSTON ELSTON an art teacher in the Public schools. STEVE PRIMIS took off on a fishing spree - this time to Florida. TOM & CAROL TERRIEN took the Christmas Theater tour to London. JOAN PETLAK after a varied career in the theater is now happy studying to be a nurse .. in Los Angeles. DONNA MILLS is still appearing regularly on the CBS show "Love is a Many Splendored Thing". Hear rumors that JULIE BICKING is to be married sometime this spring. MARI LYNN BROWN will be at the St. Regis in New York in March on a return engagement. JACK TYGETT will be the choreographer for the Doris Day TV show coming up. RAY CIACCROCHI will have his first one man show in New York soon .. he has plugged away at art - is married and they have a girl. JAY DEVLIN has had a busy year on TV commercials and is currently rehearsing to understudy three roles in the off Broadway revival of Jules Phifer's "Little Murderers". ERIC LUTHER MOORE arrived in New York on his father's birthday - December 12th - JIM & LINDA are hysterically happy with the arrival. BILL GARY has pulled roots from New York and is thinking of locating on the west coast. A Christmas card revealed the marriage of ELISSA QUEYQUEP on October 11th to ROBERT WHITE. She will continue with her work in Dance Therapy. ROSE VRUNO has recently settled in Eau Claire, Wisconsin where she

is teaching in an institution for emotionally disturbed children. JUDI WEST writes "living mostly in New York although I plan another trip to Europe - Rome - my second movie there - I'm not sure there's much to write, except the theatre takes up my life. I hope for something more and you can understand the ups and downs -". JOHN NEUMEIER's new ballet for the Harkness Company was to be premiered in Monte Carlo on December 28th. It is titled "Stages and Reflections" and its New York premiere is set for January 22nd and he hopes to be there for that opening. John writes - "It was so nice meeting again and working with KAREN KRYCH, she is a truly professional dancer (quite rare I find) and a very special person. I'm also using BONNIE MATHIS in the work and like her also." A singer-actor friend - FITZROY DAVIS wrote on his card that he had gone once to see the New York City Ballet Company - his remarks are priceless - "Can't stand Balanchine's neo-classic structural Ballets. Cold and boring - BORING! The men use the girls like gimlets with which they are trying to bore a hole in the floor. The girls mostly have small heads and tiny features and the men are pretty scruffy too. Carry me back to old Massine." - FRITZ. That is not a bad bit of news all from the Christmas cards - it should happen oftener. Here at home "Nutcracker" has held the lime-light with the cast announced in the last Bulletin. The St. Paul Civic Opera gave it a bit of competition for four performances with "HANSEL & GRETEL". It was very well received and the school furnished the angels which even got a mention in the review. The girls were LAUREN ROUSE, JORENE HOLAS, LIANE SPERFAN, GAIL PETERSON, PHOEBE REDMAN, ROBIN BECKER, ANNETTE KUBAJAK, SUZETTE POMPEI, SHIRLEY VISCHER, SUSAN CORBETT, SUSAN SHORE, JAN RIO, CHRISTINE BUSHBACKER AND CINDY LOGAN. A new feature was added to the School's annual Christmas party in the form of a printed program using some of the very best pantomimes from the Children's Character class. All pantomimes were worked out and created by the students themselves and were

poems of Eugene Field. The six winners were DESIREE GRODE, KIM BACHLEDA, CHARLES GRODE, MELODY STANGER, MORAG MACKENZIE and ANDREW SCHULTZ.

All proved their worth and one is sure to see more of them in the near future. Rehearsals are well under way for the May performances. "Frochlicher Reigen" will be revived with almost a new cast except for the Badolato boys. Work has begun on a new ballet for children which is tentatively titled "The Proper Playmate" with young ANDREW SCHULTZ dancing the part of the boy seeking a proper playmate. A suite of Austrian Peasant dances will use a large cast ... using a group of the smaller boys in the school.

THOUGHTS TO DWELL ON.

Man is born for great joy, for ceaseless creation, in which he is God; for the broad, free love, unhindered by anything, love for everything; for a tree, for the sky, for man, for a dog, for a dear-benign beautiful earth - Oh - especially for the earth with its beautific motherhood - with its mornings and nights, with its magnificent everyday miracles.

- Alexandre Kuprin

Perhaps you are not sufficiently amazed at being alive; you do not wonder as you should at this astounding miracle of your life.

- Gide.

It is a presumption of great danger and consequence, besides the absurd temerity it implies, to scorn what we do not comprehend.

- Montaigne.

Either we shall find what we are seeking, or at least we shall free ourselves from the persuasion that we know what we do not know.

- Socrates.

One can live without happiness but one cannot live without making use of one's life, and one must do this according to one's own nature.

- George Sand.

Whatever of good or beauty or interest there is in your life, must come from yourself and the grace that may be planted in you.

- Kipling.

The most foolish of all errors is for young people to believe that they lose their originality by accepting the truths which have already been accepted by their predecessors.

- Goethe.